

The Beaufort News

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1929

President Coolidge has granted an increase in the tariff on peanuts and this should be helpful to the farmers of eastern Carolina and Virginia where a great many peanuts are grown.

Governor Gardner deserves commendation for his hearty support of the proposed secret ballot law. His attitude is consistent with statements he made before he was elected. Sometimes politicians do not stand by their pre-election promises.

The Ahoskie Herald does not believe in a protective tariff even though it lives in a peanut country. It is not favorably impressed with the increased duty on peanuts and says so without hesitancy. The Hertford farmers no doubt admire the Herald's consistency but we suspect that they are glad to have the protection for their peanuts.

HIGHWAY CHAIRMAN NEEDED AT LOWER SALARY MAYBE

Governor Gardner's decision to appoint a chairman for the State Highway Commission in place of Mr. Page who has resigned, need not surprise any one. This is one of the most important offices that Governor Gardner will have a chance to fill and it is not surprising that he desires to have that privilege. Mr. Page seems to think that most of the highway work has been done and that a whole time chairman at \$15,000 a year is not needed now. This may be true but still the organization will always need a head because there is considerable work that ought to be done yet. It ought to be possible to get a competent man for the place for less than \$15,000 a year though. At any rate there are plenty who think they are competent who are willing to take the place.

SHOULD PROVE ITS CASE

The Raleigh News and Observer never loses an opportunity to throw a brick at Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon. Recently it has repeated several times a statement which it made during the recent campaign that Mr. Mellon has made millions of dollars out of some whiskey distillery. The News and Observer has never given its authority for this statement. During the campaign Mr. Mellon stated that he had once owned some stock in a distillery, that he never had anything to do with the management of it and that he sold his stock before he took office as Secretary of the Treasury and in fact the company had gone out of business three years before the prohibition law went into effect. It does not seem at all likely that he ever made "millions" out of a block of distillery stock, and the News and Observer ought to either offer some proof of its charges or stop making them.

THEY WANT THE OFFICES

It seems probable that a majority of the men and women of North Carolina, Democrats and Republicans, want a secret ballot law enacted. Women's organizations, the newspaper publishers, ministers of the gospel and many individuals have so declared themselves. Still there is strong opposition to a real honest to goodness secret ballot law and the attempt to get it may be defeated again. This opposition does not come from the preachers, the women, the editors, the farmers, the business folks and the rank and file. It comes from the hard boiled politicians. The men to whom officeholding is the main object of life. They are the ones who want offices for themselves and their friends and who think they are more apt to win with the sort of primary and election laws that we now have. They try to lug in the "nigger" issue or some such foolish excuse, but be not deceived dearly beloved it is the offices that these fellows are interested in and absolutely nothing else.

SOCIALISM NOT GROWING FAST

Some years ago Socialism seemed to be making considerable headway in the United States but now it seems to be on the decline. In November Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President received only 300,000 votes. In 1920 Debs was given nearly a million votes. The United States is not a very good field for the spread of socialistic doctrines. Our people are willing to do a good many things en masse but when it comes to owning property they are individualists. There are too many examples of men who have started with nothing and amassed comfortable fortunes, even vast wealth, to make us favorable to common ownership of property. The ones who are willing to work and save do not feel that it is their duty to support the lazy and incompetent. Those who succeed in accumulating some property want to do what they please with it. They have no inclination to divide it up with

the unsuccessful. It may seem unfair that some people are rich and some poor but it would also be unfair to deprive the industrious of the fruits of their labor and hand it over to idlers and wastrels. Anyway Russia is trying out socialistic schemes and we might as well wait and see how it turns out there.

THE BOX SUGGESTION SEEMS IMPRACTICABLE

The suggestion made by Congressman Box of Texas that the Al Smith faction of the Democratic party should be relegated to the rear does not seem to have aroused much enthusiasm. Very little approval of the plan has been expressed—at least publicly. No doubt in private many Democrats have said something of the sort but they do not care to make too much stir about the matter. The reason is that the Smith forces are in control of the party machinery and it would be rather dangerous to antagonize them. Leaders like Senator Glass, Senator George, Josephus Daniels and a good many others wish that they could get rid of the Tammany influence in the party but do not see any way to do it at this time.

In the November election Governor Smith received some fifteen million votes. This was by far the largest vote any Democratic candidate for the Presidency had received up to that time. It was more than double the popular vote of either Cox or Davis, the candidates in 1920 and 1924. It was really a remarkable gain and showed that the Democratic party had a candidate and a platform that appealed to a great many people in some parts of the country. This big increase was not in the South. It came from the New England states, the North, the Middle West and West. It was mostly a city vote, although there were gains in some rural sections also.

Governor Smith's offer to allow his speeches to be sold to pay off the Democratic debt will do two things. It will help pay the deficit and it will keep Governor Smith before the people. Those who buy his book and read his speeches will sing his praises as well. Mr. Smith may not care to be the nominee in 1932 but he and his friends will be in a position to say who the nominee shall be. It may be Governor Roosevelt, or some one else but it will not be a man selected by those who fought Smith. The election showed plainly enough the great strength of the Smith wing of the party. This faction is likely to have a majority in the next national convention just as it did in the last. The suggestion of Mr. Box does not seem practical. The control of the Democratic party is not lodged in the hands of the Southern element any longer. The party has passed through a process of evolution which cannot be denied. New issues have evolved and new leaders are in control.

Press Cleanings

HOW ABOUT HULL?

Oscar Underwood, says the Durham Herald, "was the only man of his time, or since, representing the south in the national legislative halls who was of real presidential calibre." Wait a minute, friend; aren't you forgetting North Carolina's candidate, Cordell Hull — (Greensboro News.)

A FAIR ELECTION LAW

For some years there has been a growing sentiment in North Carolina for the adoption of the Australian ballot system—one that insures fair elections and protects the individual voter in his right to vote as he pleases. It has been before the legislature more than once only to be killed by large majorities. It is before the general assembly again this year. Will the peanut politicians again succeed in killing it? We hope not. The people from Manteo to Murphy should get in touch with their representatives and urge them to vote for this measure.—(Gastonia Gazette.)

THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

A State-wide Australian ballot law is a long-felt need in North Carolina, and there is a strong public sentiment in favor of such a law, but the leading politicians of the Democratic party have strenuously opposed the passage of this law, and succeeded in strangling every effort made to put the law on the statute books. These politicians fear the law will work ill to party success and give the opposition a better chance with a fair election law than is the case at the present time. The women of the State have been favorable to this law and have begged for its enactment. But their requests have been ignored and the politicians have had their way. Times have changed, however, and there is a fine chance that a better and fairer ballot law will pass at this session of the Legislature.—(Charity and Children.)

THE PEANUT TARIFF

With an increase in tariff which will practically prohibit the importation of foreign peanuts, this should be a good year for farmers to make a small increase in their acreage.

The imported peanuts have had two ways of depressing our prices. First, they, of course, increased our volume of stock and gave the peanut dealer a cue with which to put down the price of peanuts. When the peanut tariff was materially increased a few years ago, the price of peanuts immediately went down, which showed that reason did not always prevail in the market price on some commodities.

With the new schedule of rates, we may not have much change, or we may have a great speculation and a big rise. Yet for the coming years the new tariff will mean higher prices for peanuts.

Our farmers should seek to grow such peanuts as the trade demands and take more care in housing and cleaning them, things which have, for a number of years, been badly neglected.—(Williamston Enterprise.)

Letters From Our Readers

MR. McCAIN DISCUSSES SEVERAL MATTERS

Editor Beaufort News:

I have something more to say. I have heard it rumored around that our county had to be sold out on account of default of paying some interest on bonds to the amount of over \$32,000.00. Now gentlemen, Mr. Edwards told me and others that this has been paid. Now my friends, these bonds were sold when our last legislature, 1927, was in session. You know who represented this county at that time and now he is ready to say something about the present board of county commissioners for this. My dear readers it is because he can't rule this board like he did that other board. I thank God that he can't for if he could he would keep his mouth shut. Now Mr. Edwards tells us our county will come along all right, he thinks now. My dear friends I want to tell you our roads are in a better condition than they have been in I say in six months, some say twelve months. You know some expenses have been cut and they will be cut more in the near future and I don't believe that our taxes will be raised much and if they are we know that there has got to be money raised to take care of the county debts which the last extravagant board of county commissioners put on us. As for what these young college students say—that ain't nothing—they were not raised like I was. I was raised under a three months school once a year and part of the time, and some time it was two years apart. Never went to a six months school in my life except one year when the people came together and got a teacher to teach ten months one year and I went to that school and I learned less than I did in a school of three months and if I was in these young girls' place I would be ashamed to tell that I had to take a course of cooking and sewing in college for their own special benefit, that is something my girls learned at home under their mother. They were not allowed to lie on the bed like they are now until their mother got breakfast done and eaten by the rest of the family and then got up and hardly have time to catch the truck going to school and I am of the same opinion still that they ought to have been made to learn these things at home and then they could have learned their book better at school. Now my children did not have the chance of more than a four months school in the time I raised them. Now I note that they say that the majority of citizens don't want to go back to a six months school term in this age of progression. Gentlemen common sense teaches me that we ain't in a progressive time with the indebtedness that we have on us in this county when eight months schools and good roads put it on us through the extravagance of the Democratic party. When we owe for our progress I don't call that progressive. Now dear friends I want you to know that I am in favor of good schools, but six months term is long enough for a child to make a grade if they will teach them their books and nothing else. Now I think it is time that both young and old study more about their spiritual life than their worldly life. Now I want to tell in this fast age of living they try to run too fast to stop and think when they are going to eternity unprepared. There are many who will drink too much whiskey and will start his car and when he lands many a time he is in eternity unprepared to meet his God. Now I want everyone that reads this letter to think and study over it and see if I ain't right about it. Now I will close by saying that Christ died to save his people and I am writing to try to save this county out of a lot of expense.

From your best friend for what is right and nothing wrong,

E. L. McCAIN.

Newport, N. C.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to our many friends who so thoughtfully and sympathetically assisted us during our recent bereavement.

MRS. MARY A. NOE
THOMAS L. NOE
ROLAND H. NOE
BLYTHE H. NOE.

MEET ME AT

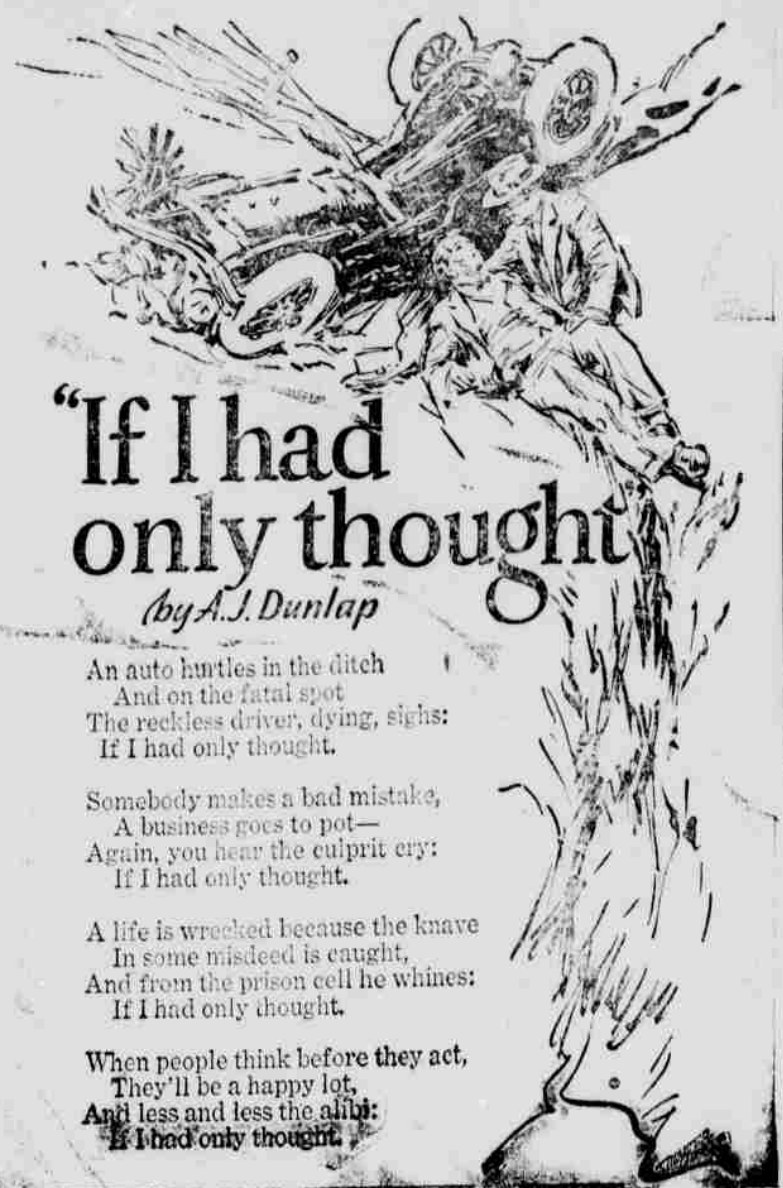
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"If I had only thought"

(by A. J. Dunlap)

An auto hurtles in the ditch
And on the fatal spot
The reckless driver, dying, sighs:
If I had only thought.

Somebody makes a bad mistake,
A business goes to pot—
Again, you hear the culprit cry:
If I had only thought.

A life is wrecked because the knave
In some misdeed is caught,
And from the prison cell he whines:
If I had only thought.

When people think before they act,
They'll be a happy lot,
And less and less the alibi:
If I had only thought.

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Problems!

We all desire to have attractive, comfortable homes in which it is a pleasure to live and of which we are proud when entertaining friends. Such homes are not obtained by thoughtless choosing of furniture. Whether you are furnishing the entire house, one room, or one corner of a room, there are always PROBLEMS as to style, color, arrangement and many other details that confront one.

Our men are not expert interior decorators but their experience and study along this line enables them to give you helpful advice on the selection of the most suitable furniture. This advice will always be cheerfully given whether you are ready to buy or just looking.

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